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*A Great Peace Maker: the Diary of James Gallatin, Secretary to Albert Gallatin, 1813-1827.* With an introduction by Viscount BRYCE. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1914. Pp. xv, 314.)

CERTAIN features in the presentation of this volume are decidedly open to criticism. The text of the diary is obviously not pure. A note on page 51 calls attention to one story that could not have been told on the date under which it occurs, and explains the anachronism by alluding to the fact that the diary, which closes in 1827, was in a bad condition in 1869 and was put in shape by its author, who at that time added notes. Most of these were excluded from publication, but on pages 28 and 61 other aberrations occur without warning. In general, however, the diary bears on its face the evidence of its authenticity. It is surprising to find Viscount Bryce in his introduction speaking of the second Mrs. Albert Gallatin, a member of a well-known Maryland family, which indeed gave Gallatin much the same kind of start in politics as the Schuyler connection gave Hamilton, as "a typical New Englander of that time" (p. x), and not less strange to find him saying of Gallatin that he "resumed the wise financial policy of Alexander Hamilton" (p. ix). He also speaks of the editor as Count Albert, instead of James Gallatin (p. x).

The question of authenticity is of special importance, for the diary is the only available evidence of the fact that the Duke of Wellington wrote to Albert Gallatin during the negotiations of 1814 (pp. 34-55). This is the most important single contribution. A letter of Colonel Barry, describing an interview with Napoleon at Elba, is of some importance, if it has not been printed elsewhere. The other letters and documents included in the volume have been printed in the *Writings and Life* of Gallatin, edited and written by Henry Adams. The statement in the diary that Gallatin was nominated for the vice-presidency in 1824 in the hope that in this way he might succeed to the presidency for which his birth disqualified his standing directly (p. 251), suggests several questions.

The diary gains no historical significance from its author, though he interests us as illustrating that an American mother and education could leave him more French than his father. While his brother Albert appears in every line American, and appropriate founder of the American branch of the family, James rejoices at every mile and day of absence from America and becomes founder of a repatriated line. His grandson has cut from the diary "anything that might offend" (p. v), but this does not include that which is supposed to offend the Anglo-Saxon. It is a diary by a young man, and not for the "young person". With this frankness goes an infectious gaiety which gives the diary a unique charm and promises it long life among general readers.

Throughout, against a background of frivolity and social tattle of the *haut monde*, looms the figure of the father of the diarist. No

other material has made Albert Gallatin so living a figure. One realizes how completely he was of the governing class of Europe. Descendant of Jacques Coeur, cousin of Madame de Staël, cousin of Cavour, youthful intimate of Voltaire, he was of a long-enduring stock, of a family which commanded universal entrée. His personality placed him with the elect of this class. The czar, the Duke of Wellington, and Napoleon all gave him signal attention; he could have domesticated himself among the inner circle in any country of Europe. Why did he return to America, where he rightly judged that his career was ended, that worse conditions would ensue before better ones could evolve? Foremost among the reasons was a great and simple love of republican institutions, which shines through all his speech and action. Equally strong, if not more fundamental, was that spirit of loyalty to a task undertaken, to a country voluntarily adopted, inbred in the Swiss, and which had caused Gallatins for centuries to give true service to most of the countries of Europe: the spirit which the Lion of Lucerne commemorates.

CARL RUSSELL FISH.

*The Winning of the Far West: a History of the Regaining of Texas, of the Mexican War, and the Oregon Question; and of the Successive Additions to the Territory of the United States, within the Continent of America, 1829-1867.* By ROBERT McNUTT McELROY, Ph.D., Edwards Professor of American History, Princeton University. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1914. Pp. x, 384.)

THIS is a somewhat pretentious book: "It is based", the preface informs us, "upon authoritative, and in part unpublished, sources, and was written at the instance of the publishers, to constitute a continuation of Colonel Roosevelt's *Winning of the West*". To the author it presents a "theme of epic character", and he tells us that the "volume will have failed of its mission if it does not show that the winning of the Far West is an achievement in which every citizen of the Republic may feel an honest pride". Such a purpose and spirit raise an expectation of a literary treatment based upon a fresh handling of materials, together with a doubt concerning the honest pride. One feels at the outset that it may be an epic wherein the gods have staged a play known variously as Manifest Destiny, Benevolent Assimilation, or even as Mommsen's Law. On the last page of the book the doubt is abundantly confirmed. The author closes with the following words: "In looking backward over the process, we cannot fail to see manifest destiny in almost every page . . . it has been a past of which no American need feel ashamed." It is true that so many works treating of this era have been written from this point of view that it was once the traditional method of treating the subject. It is something of a shock, however, to discover, after so many have labored to establish a different